Electronic Access Conference

2002

U.S. Department of
EDUCATION

Capstone Session

Student Aid Awareness and Application Processing System Update

Today's Topics

- **Student Aid Awareness and You!**
- **2003-04 Application Processing System Update**
  - PINs
  - Processing Statistics
  - FAFSA on the Web
  - Paper FAFSA and Renewal FAFSA
  - Student Aid Report (SAR) and SAR on the Web
  - Central Processing System (CPS)
  - FAA Access to CPS Online
  - Important Dates

Outreach – Building Partnerships

- Recent successes:
  - HUD Neighborhood Networks
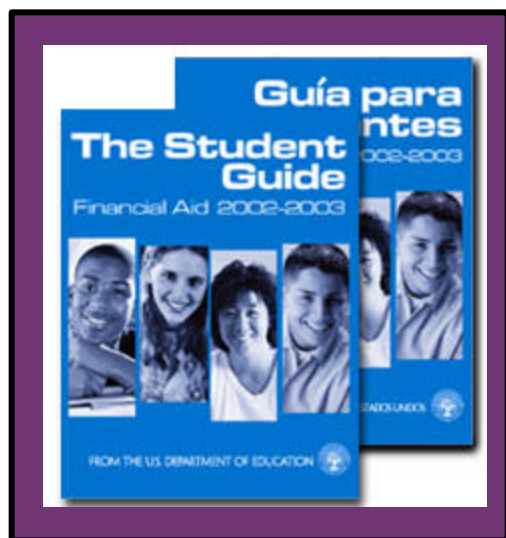 - National Indian Education Association
  - Tom Joyner Morning Show
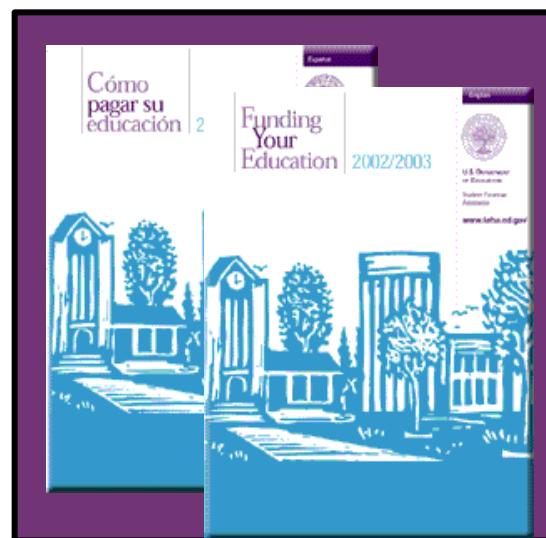

Links to the Students Portal

FSA Sponsorship

Publications – Our "Flagship" Publications

- The Student Guide
- Funding Your Education

Send Your Feedback To: jennifer.douglas@ed.gov

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Publications – New in FY02: "Don't Get Stung!"

FOCUS:
■ **Free advice on Federal Student Aid**
■ **Free application process**
■ **Who to contact**

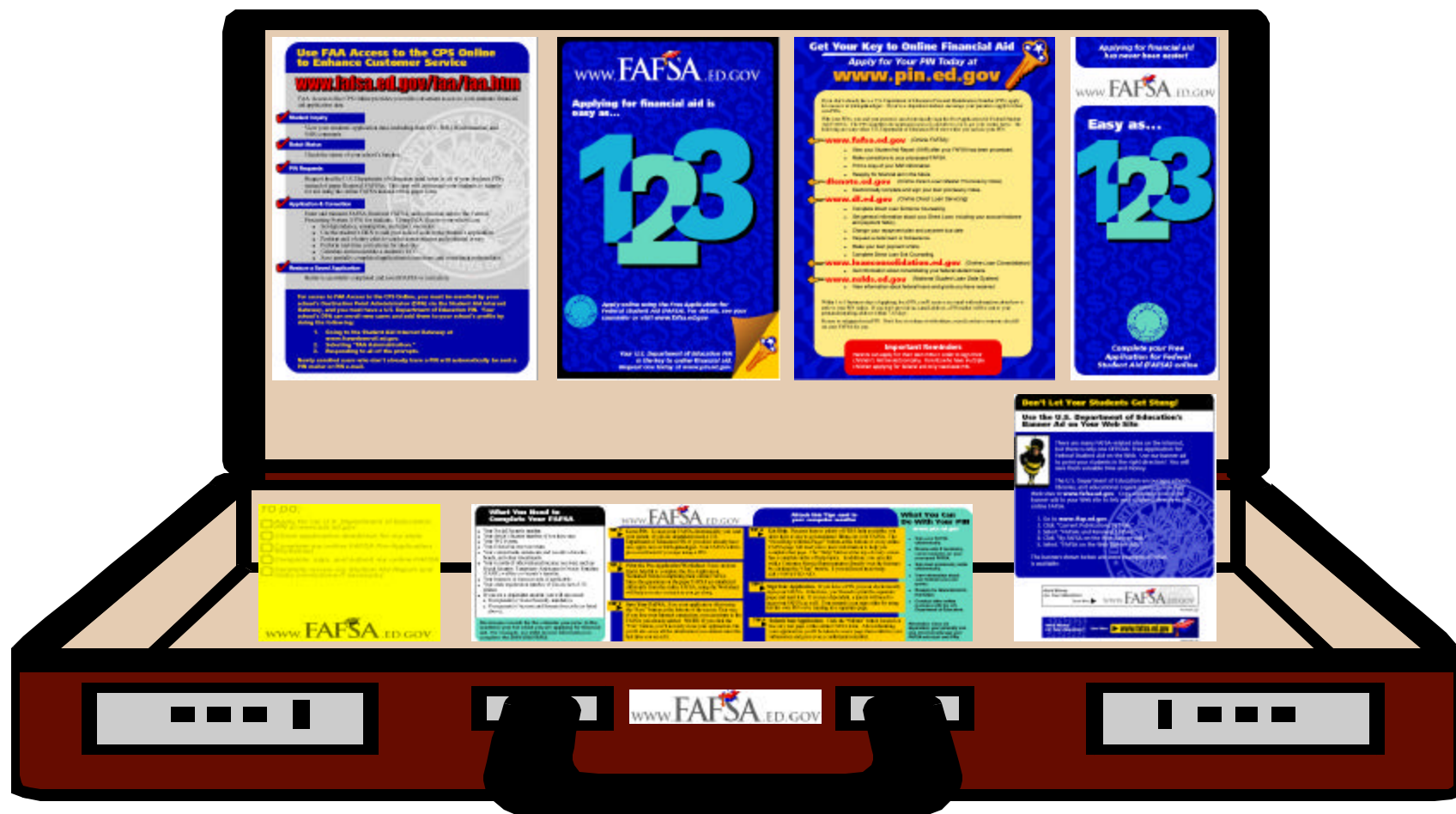# *Publications – New in FY02: Need Money for College?*

FOCUS:
■ **Get information on Federal Aid programs at FSA's Students Portal**
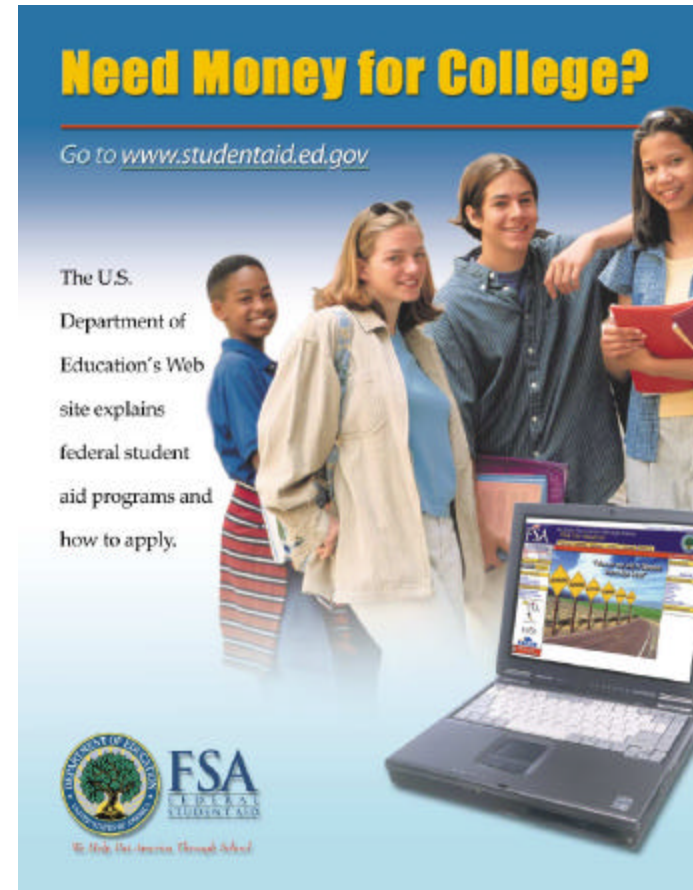
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FAFSA Toolkit: Don't Leave Home Without It

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Students Portal: WWW.STUDENTAID.ED.GOV
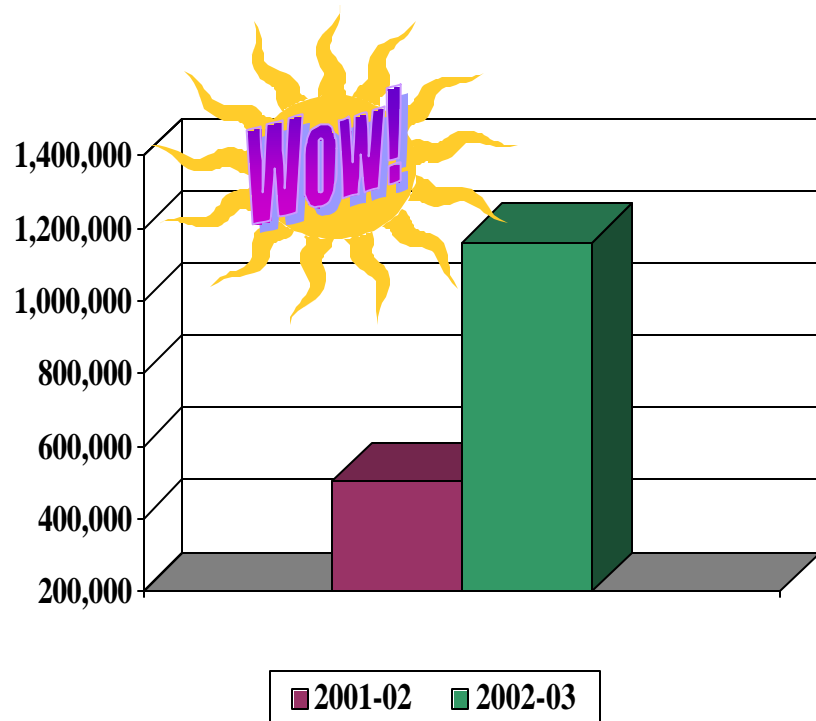
The PIN

- The PIN is the *key* to Online financial aid

- Encourage students and parents without PINs to apply for one **NOW!**

- www.pin.ed.gov

- Provide e-mail address and receive PIN in about 24 hours

WELCOME TO PIN REGISTRATION

Welcome to PIN Registration

PIN HOME
PIN REQUEST AND INFORMATION
CHANGE INTERNET ACCESS
CONTACT US
SECURITY
US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
FINANCIAL AID FOR STUDENTS
STUDENT GUIDE
FSA ELECTRONIC SERVICES

This web site is your source of information for the U.S. Department of Education PIN. Select one of these links for more information about what the PIN is and where you can use it or select the PIN Frequently Asked Questions link.

If you have never received a U.S. Department of Education PIN or you are unsure if you already have a PIN, please select Apply for PIN to receive one. By accepting this PIN you agree to not disclose or share your PIN with anyone. Because your PIN serves as your electronic signature and provides access to your personal records, you should never give your PIN to anyone. Be sure to keep your PIN in a safe place; you will be able to use the same PIN in the future to apply electronically for student aid and access your U.S. Department of Education records.

If you have received a PIN previously but no longer have access to it, select PIN Request and Information from the menu list on the left side of this page.

APPLY FOR PIN   CHANGE PIN   PIN FAQ'S
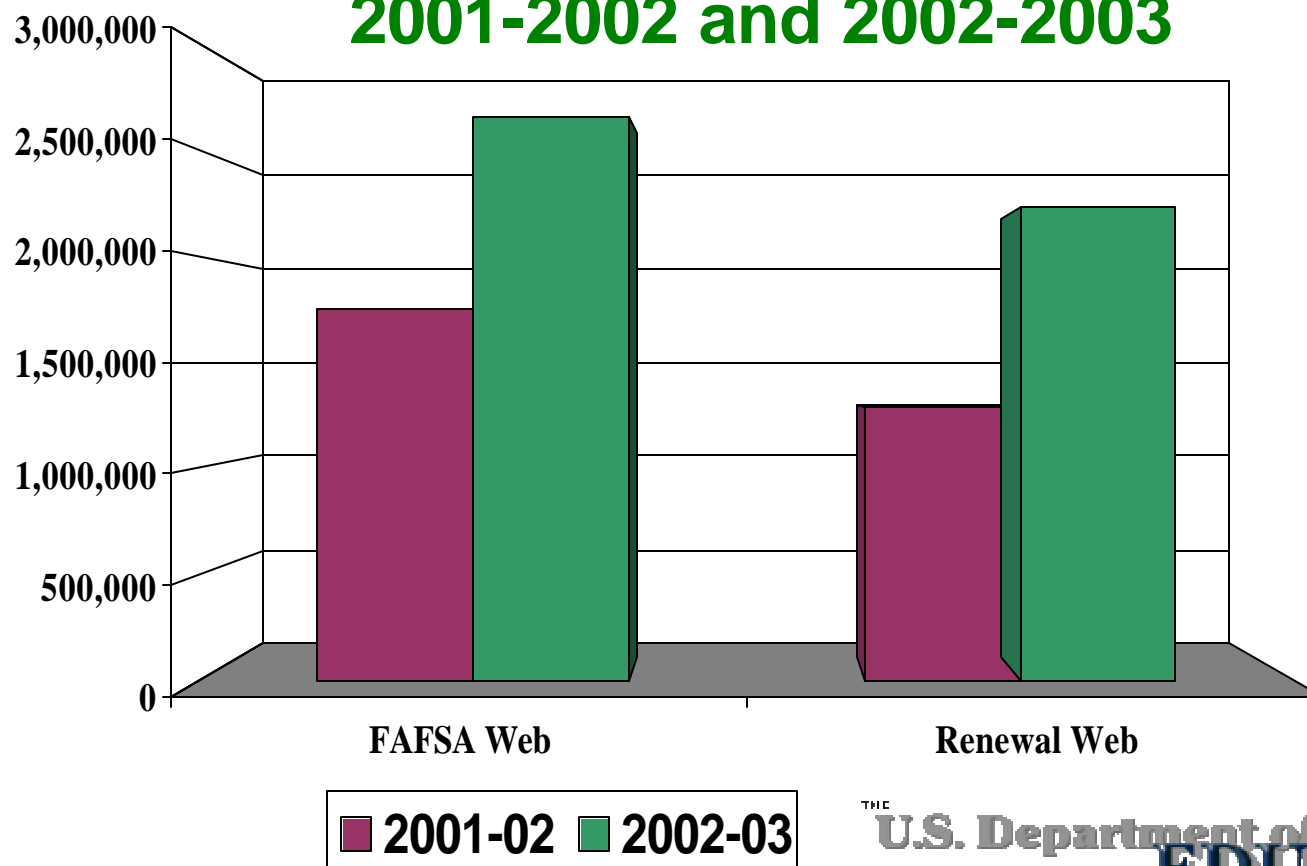
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PIN Statistics

- Since Nov. 1998, nearly 23 million individuals have received PINs
- In 2001-02, over 500,000 students and parents used PIN to sign FAFSA electronically
- So far for 2002-03, more than 1.2 million have signed with PINs
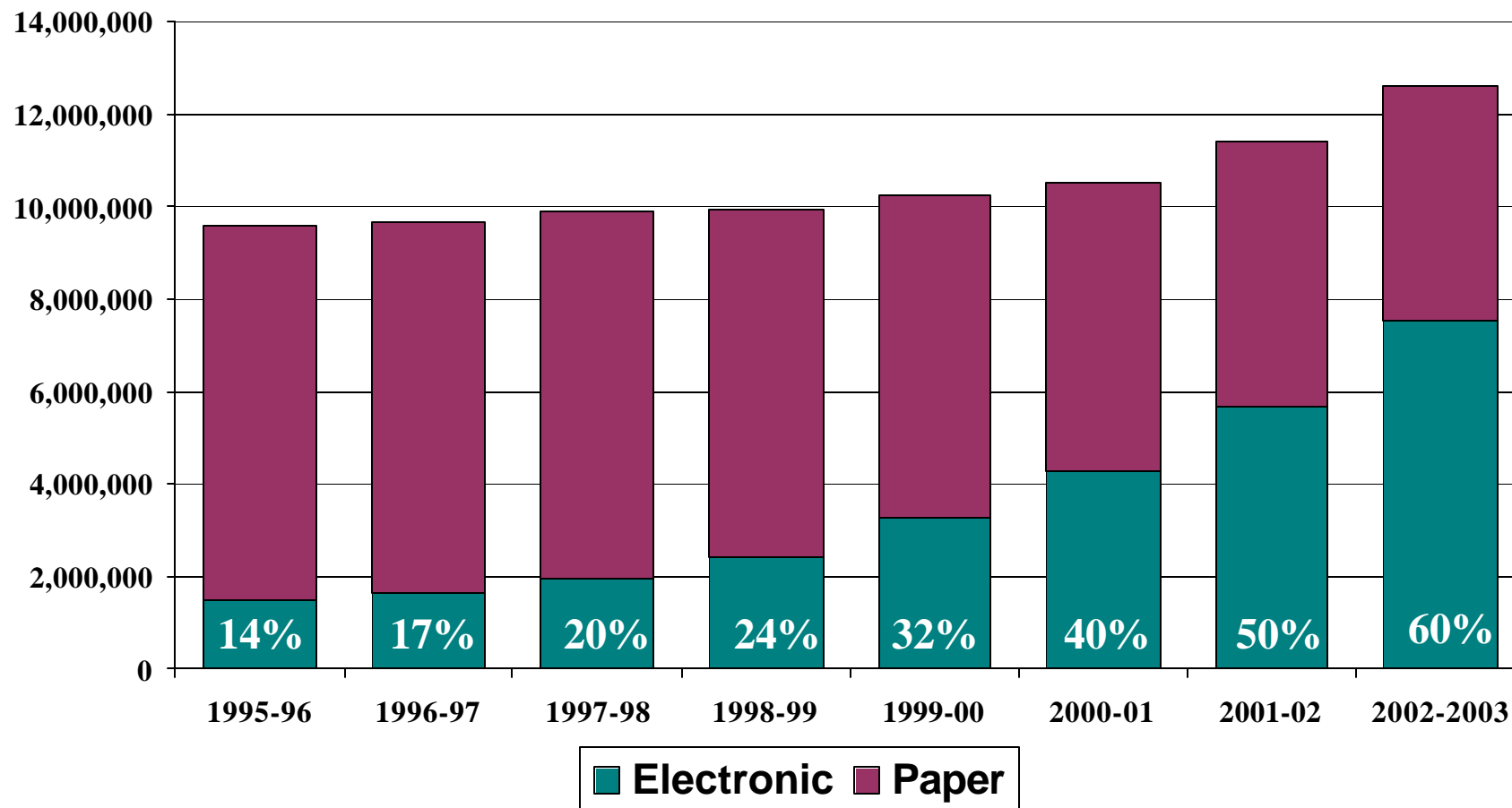
FAFSA on the Web Statistics

For the first 46 weeks of processing for 2001-2002 and 2002-2003
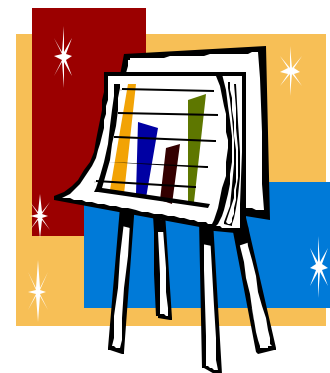
FAFSA Processing
Electronic and Paper FAFSAs

Stacked bar chart showing Electronic and Paper FAFSAs from 1995-96 through 2002-2003. Y-axis ranges from 0 to 14,000,000. Electronic percentages labeled on each bar.

Year	Electronic %
1995-96	14%
1996-97	17%
1997-98	20%
1998-99	24%
1999-00	32%
2000-01	40%
2001-02	50%
2002-2003	60%

Legend: ■ Electronic ■ Paper

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Application Volume
2001-02 and 2002-03

2001-02 FAFSAs: 9,807,997 processed after 46 weeks (mid-November 2001)

2002-03 FAFSAs: 10,692,665 processed after 46 weeks (mid-November 2002)

That's a 9% increase!

FAFSA on the Web
www.fafsa.ed.gov

- General site improvements
- New logo
- Dynamic "late-breaking" news section
- "Fill Out a FAFSA" button more prominent

FAFSA on the Web
Enhancements

- Fields pre-populated based on applicant's answers to other questions –
    - 'Number in College' set to '1' if independent and 'Household Size' is '1'
    - 'Were you born before 1/1/80?' pre-populated based on answer to 'Date of Birth' question
    - 'Are you married?' pre-populated based on answer to 'Marital Status' question
- More use of skip logic

Simplified FAFSA on the Web

- Law provides that applicants meeting criteria for Automatic Zero EFC or Simplified Needs Test (SNT) can complete 'simplified' FAFSA

- Will implement 2003-04 'Simplified' FOTW

> *"The simplified application form shall… permit such family to provide only the data elements required for the purposes of establishing eligibility for student financial aid"*

- Web technology offers advantage of helping students to determine if they qualify

Simplified Application

- Will apply to FOTW, RFOTW, and COTW
- Questions reordered to determine up front if applicant qualifies for Auto Zero EFC or SNT
- New Pre-Application Worksheet will follow questions as presented in FOTW and reference paper FAFSA question numbers
- Students from certain states will not be given option to skip questions because data is required for state programs

Simplified Application

- Applicants notified that schools/health professions programs may need all FAFSA data

- If student qualifies for Auto Zero EFC, student (and parents) given option to skip --
  - Income taxes paid and number of exemptions claimed
  - Worksheets A, B, C questions
  - Asset net worth questions

- If student qualifies for SNT only, student (and parents) given option to skip asset net worth questions

- If student does not qualify for Auto Zero EFC or SNT, student completes all remaining FAFSA questions

- COTW will detect if eligibility changes and prompt students to provide additional information

Corrections on the Web

► Make Corrections to a Processed FAFSA

- Many students will receive "real-time" results
- CPS edits applied immediately
- Official EFC provided instantaneously
- No NSLDS match will occur, but postscreening match done no more than one week later
- ISIR will go out in daily batch transmission

FAFSA on the Web Toolkits

- **Mailed in October 2002 to --**
  - Postsecondary schools
  - High schools
  - State agencies
  - Libraries
  - PTAs
  - TRIO Centers
- **Toolkits include materials you can use to encourage students to use the Web to apply for aid**
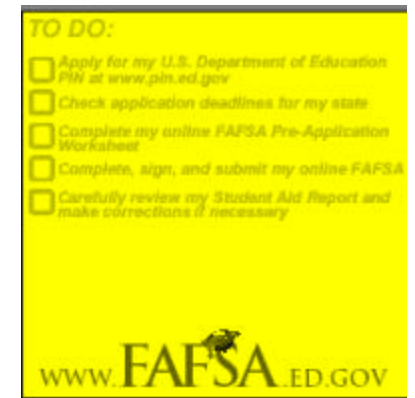
Applying for financial aid has never been easier!

WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV

Easy as...

123

Complete your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online

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FAFSA on the Web Toolkits

- **For faster and more accurate processing, encourage students to–**
  - Go to Section 1 on Home Page to see what documents they will need to complete FOTW
  - Use new and improved Pre-Application Worksheet instead of paper FAFSA to prepare for filling out FOTW
  - Provide e-mail address
  - Use PIN to electronically sign Web applications

TO DO:
- Apply for my U.S. Department of Education PIN at www.pin.ed.gov
- Check application deadlines for my state
- Complete my online FAFSA Pre-Application Worksheet
- Complete, sign, and submit my online FAFSA
- Carefully review my Student Aid Report and make corrections if necessary

WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV

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Applying for Aid is FREE!

- Also use Toolkit to remind students that the first "F" in FAFSA stands for **Free!**

- Plenty of help available –
  – Federal Student Aid Information Center
  – Online Chat and other Help features within FOTW
  – Financial Aid Office

- Caution students about "dot com" Web sites with URLs similar to www.fafsa.ed.gov that charge families to complete FAFSA!

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FAFSA on the Web

PowerPoint presentation of FAFSA on the Web screen shots available on IFAP in October 2002 for use at Financial Aid Nights

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FOTW Demo Site

- Available on 11/25/02
- http://fafsademo.test.ed.gov
- User name: eddemo
- Password: fafsatest

The Paper FAFSA

- **Color of the FAFSA**
  - **Yellow for Students (Pantone 100 CVU)**
  - **Purple for Parents (Pantone 264 CVU)**
- **FAFSA will include insert and return receipt postcard**
- **Some new and reworded questions and instructions**

The Paper FAFSA

- **New logo to complement FSA logo:**

- **Improved notes for --**
  - Questions 38 and 73: Answer "yes" if 1040 filed only to claim Hope or Lifetime Learning credits
  - Questions 47-48 and 82-83: If eligible for Simplified Needs Test, can skip asset questions

The Paper FAFSA

- VA monthly benefits amount increased to 4 characters

- Added parents' marital status date question (Question 60)

60. Month and year they were married, separated, divorced, or widowed   MONTH   YEAR

The Paper FAFSA
E-mail Address

- New e-mail address field added to Step 6 allows FSA and schools to communicate electronically with students

- Student receives e-mail with links to PIN and SAR data on the Web as quickly as 24 hours after processing

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The Paper FAFSA
E-mail Address

99. For contact by internet, provide e-mail address: `[                                        @                                        ]`

- Question 99
- 34 characters long
- Pre-printed "@" symbol
- Set to blank if questionable characters
- FSA will send e-mails with secure link to PIN and SAR information on the Web

E-mail Statistics

- 4.5 million students have provided e-mail addresses
- Since Jan. 1, 2002
  - \> 4.7 million PIN e-mails sent
  - \> 6.3 million SAR e-mails sent
- With addition of new field to 2003-04 paper FAFSA, number of PIN and SAR e-mails will increase dramatically

```
From:"U.S. Department of Education - CPS" <cpspin@cpsemail.sfa.ed.gov> | Block Addr
Subject: Your U.S. Department of Education PIN Request
    To:"Applicant WAZRDVM7M9F"
```

Dear EMILY,

Your U.S. Department of Education PIN has been issued. We are sending this to you as a result of the request you made from the PIN Registration web site.

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■ **Clarification added to Worksheet C questions:**

– Expanded "child support paid" question to include support paid as a result of a legal requirement

– Included more examples of "taxable earnings from need-based employment"

– Reworded "student grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS" question to clarify what part of Americorps awards should be reported

Worksheet C

For question 46		For question 81
$	Education credits (Hope and Lifetime Learning tax credits) from IRS Form 1040-line 48 or 1040A-line 31	$
$	Child support **paid** because of divorce or separation or as a result of a legal requirement. Don't include support for children in your (or your parents') household, as reported in question 85 (or question 65 for your parents).	$
$	Taxable earnings from need-based employment programs, such as Federal Work-Study and need-based employment portions of fellowships and assistantships	$
$	Student grant and scholarship aid reported to the IRS in your (or your parents') adjusted gross income. Includes AmeriCorps benefits (awards, living allowances, and interest accrual payments), as well as grant or scholarship portions of fellowships and assistantships.	$
$ Enter in question 46.		Enter in question 81. $

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Ordering Paper FAFSAs

- Place orders through Schools Portal at "www.fsa4schools.ed.gov"
- Select Publications and How to Order link to BPOS
- Will need 8-digit OPEID
- Announcement with ordering instructions on IFAP in October 2002
- Due to continuing increase in electronic filing, please consider reducing orders of paper FAFSAs
- FSA will NOT automatically reduce orders!

The Paper Renewal FAFSA

- Includes same changes made to paper FAFSA, including new e-mail address field

- Barcode with student's Name ID added to bottom of each page of application

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 R O

The Paper Renewal FAFSA

- **Check NSLDS to determine school code(s) in Step 6**
  - Only school codes for institutions that reported disbursements in 2002-03 will be printed
  - If no disbursement data exists, will print all schools listed on 2002-03 record used to create Renewal FAFSA

- **Pre-printed answers to income questions for students who qualified for Auto Zero EFC in 2002-03**

Paper Student Aid Report (SAR)
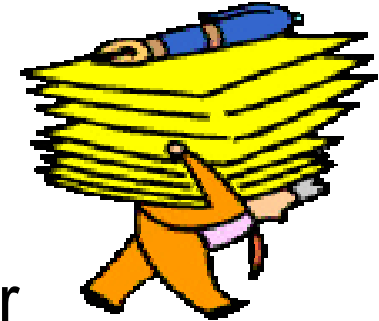
- 2003-04 SAR will be **YELLOW**
- SAR follows order of questions on paper FAFSA
- E-mail address numbered and correctable
- Student ID barcode added to correction pages
- DRN moved to bottom left hand corner to eliminate confusion with EFC
- Statement added to page 2 that student must notify FAA if drug conviction status changes

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SAR Information on the Web

- **All students with PINs can view SAR information on the Web**
- **This applies to paper, Web, and EDExpress filers**
- **Go to fafsa.ed.gov home page, Section 3**

FAFSA Follow-up

Find your FAFSA online!
You can go back to your FAFSA to check status, view a Student Aid Report and get other information.

► Check status of a submitted FAFSA

► Print Student Aid Report (SAR)

► Student Access

► More Options >>>

CPS Changes
Database Matches

- ## Will not implement Prisoner's Match in 2003-04

- ## INS Match:
  - Will hold records for up to 72 hours before sending ISIR, pending results of automated secondary confirmation
  - Procedure will affect Processing Date

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CPS Changes
NSLDS Postscreening Match

- # Will begin postscreening Jan. 13, 2003
- # Will occur weekly
- # Reason codes –
  - Added capability to report up to 3 codes
  - Added new values:
    - 11 = No longer exceeds subsidized loan limit
    - 12 = No longer exceeds combined loan limit
    - 13 = Change in discharge status

CPS Changes
IRS Match

- Provision added to 1998 Higher Education Amendments authorizing ED to confirm with IRS FAFSA-reported AGI, taxes paid, exemptions, and tax filing status

- Treasury Department has determined that Internal Revenue Code (IRC) must be amended before match can be implemented

- ED, Treasury, and OMB submitted draft legislative language to Congress

- Passage during this session of Congress is uncertain

CPS Changes
Reject Edits

- In anticipation of possible IRS match, dependent students will be rejected (non-verifiable) if no parent SSN reported

  – To avoid or eliminate reject, parent SSN must be provided

  – If no parent SSN, must enter 000-00-0000

- Verifiable reject if dependent and parent SSNs are not in valid SSN range

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CPS Changes
Reject Edits

- Modify current reject that applies when taxes paid amount equals AGI –
  - Non-verifiable
  - Now includes students and parents whose taxes paid amounts are > AGI
- Modify existing warning edit so that students and parents whose taxes paid is equal or greater than 40% of AGI are rejected (verifiable)

CPS Changes
Reject Edits

- New verifiable reject for students whose 'Date of Birth' does not match SSA

- Modified current reject A (applicants who are 75 years or older) and reject B (applicants who are 16 years old or younger) –
  - Will not reject if reported DOB matches SSA's records, and
  - SSN match flag is '4'

- Modified Verification Tracking Flag on ISIR

- Higher number has higher priority

- Recommend using this field to prioritize applicants for selection if you are using 30% verification limit option

FAA Access to CPS Online

- **Newest Web application product for FAAs**

- **Implemented May 1, 2001**
  - Check status of batches
  - View students' SAR information

- **On April 9, 2002, enhanced to allow FAAs to –**
  - Enter and submit FAFSA and Renewal FAFSA data
  - Correct application data

FAA ACCESS Online   Help FAQs

FAA Access Online

Welcome to FAA Access Online!

Use FAA Access Online to:

- View students' SAR data
- Check the status of batches
- Request a duplicate print of a Renewal Application
- Enter a FAFSA or Renewal FAFSA
- Correct a processed FAFSA
- Continue working on a saved FAFSA

Select **Next** to continue.

Next ▶

? Need help with this page?

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FAA Access to CPS Online 2003-04 Enhancements

- Renamed product to make purpose clearer

- Reformatted and simplified application screens

- "Real-time" corrections feature added

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Important Dates
Renewal Application Process
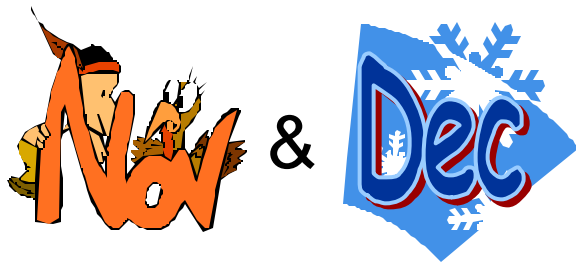
- Announcement and Guide available on IFAP and FSADownload
- Network message asking FAAs to remind students to update permanent mailing address and e-mail address with CPS

- 10/7 – 10/31 Schools can request that PINs be sent to students instead of paper Renewal FAFSAs, to remind them to reapply

- 11/7 – 12/20 CPS mails Renewal FAFSAs to students

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Important Dates
Renewal Application Process

- **11/7 – 12/20** PINs sent reminding students to reapply if --
  - Used Web in 2002-03
  - Indicated on 2002-03 FAFSA that they were a graduate or 5th year undergraduate student
  - School requested PIN be sent instead of paper Renewal FAFSA

Renewal Reminders	
Provided e-mail address on 02-03 FAFSA	Did NOT provide e-mail address
PIN e-mail	**PIN mailer**

Important Dates
Announcements and Documents

- ***November:***
  - Announcement on IFAP and FSAdownload about:
    - Application Processing System Changes
    - EDExpress Changes
    - Web Product Changes
  - A Guide to ISIRs on IFAP
  - Revised ISIR Layout in 2003-04 EDE Technical Reference
  - Federal School Code List mailed

Important Dates
System Start Up

- **January 1, 2003:**
  - FAFSA on the Web, Renewal FAFSA on the Web, Corrections on the Web available for applicants to use
  - FAA Access to CPS Online available to FAAs

- **January 2, 2003:**
  - Central Processing System starts up!!!

Looking ahead . . .

ISIR in XML format for the 2004-05 application processing year

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Other Application Processing-Related Sessions

- *Session 1:* Review of ISIR and EDE Technical Reference
- *Session 2:* FAFSA on the Web – We Aim to Please
- *Session 3:* FAA Access to CPS Online – Designed for Efficiency
- *Session 4:* The FSA PIN – The Key to Accessing Data Online
- *Session 5:* Student and School Application Output
- *Session 9:* CPS Edits, Verification, and QA Tool
- *Session 53:* Imaging and Data Capture – How FAFSAs are Processed
- Numerous *EDExpress* sessions, too!

Feedback Is Appreciated!!

We appreciate your feedback!
Send your questions and
suggestions to:

Email: fafsaweb@ncs.com

Phone: 1-800-433-3243

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